

POLO RETREAT
(RETRACING THE HISTORY AND CULTURE OF POLO)

ADVISORS:

DR. SAIMA GULZAR

AR. ILYAS MALIK

AR. SARMAD SALAUDDIN

SUBMITTED BY:

SYEDA IFRA GILLANI

ID. NO. 13003101007

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING
UNIVERSITY OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

2018

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to **ALLAH**, for all HE has endowed to me, for HIS countless blessings for helping me in the time of trouble when I was lost in despair and for helping me come to this level.

My deepest thanks to my family for their continuous support, counseling and their love. all that I was, I still am or even wish to be in life, I truly owe it to you **Mama, Baba**. Special thanks to **Apiya** for her prayers and support.

Abstract

A horse gallops with its lungs, perseveres with its heart and wins with its character. Horses lend us the wings we lack. A horse is a great friend. Some people say that a dog looks up to a man, a cat looks down on a man, but a patient horse looks a man in the eye and sees him as an equal.

Retracing the history of polo, the royal game that has won the hearts of the noble in many corners of the world. A dynamic polo retreat that celebrates both the rich heritage of **“The Sport of Kings”** while heralding the thrill and flair of this influential sport.

This project discovers the historical sport in contemporary and lively surroundings with advanced facilities. The polo retreat is to act as the most prominent meeting point for social, sports and cultural interaction.

The main objective of this project is to extend a pleasing and befitting human environment to cater for the needs of its members and visitors with respect to sports, entertainment and culture. To not bridge the gap, but to create a bridge, of the like created never before to help us learn about our roots and our identity.

Contrary to the royal and uptight image of polo, I want to bring it to a younger generation. This is a great sport that can have a larger audience and appeal to more people.

Table of Contents

Abstract	3
CHAPTER 1. THE PROJECT	8
➤ Introduction	9
➤ Title	10
➤ Statement	10
➤ Background	10
➤ Project Description	11
➤ Client’s Brief	11
➤ Architect’s Brief	12
➤ Objectives	12
➤ Scope of Work	13
➤ Feasibility of the Project	14
➤ Research Aspects	14
CHAPTER 2. LITERATURE REVIEW	15
➤ POLO	16
➤ HISTORY OF POLO	16
➤ Evolution of Modern Polo	18
➤ Horse Riding in Islam	19
➤ ABOUT THE GAME	20
• General	20
• The field	20
• Players	21
• Penalties	21
• Equipments	22
CHAPTER 3. CASE STUDIES	23
CASE STUDY 1	24

➤	AL HABTOOR POLO RESORT & CLUB.....	24
•	General Information	24
•	Location.....	25
•	About:.....	25
•	Key Facts & Figures.....	25
•	Specialties.....	26
•	Site Plan.....	27
•	About Equestrian.....	28
•	Stables	28
•	Riding School.....	29
•	Clinics.....	29
•	Polo Academy	30
•	The St. Regis Dubai (Al Habtoor Polo Resort & Club)	30
•	Services	33
•	Rooms/ Suites & Villas	33
	CASE STUDY 2.....	35
➤	THAI POLO & EQUESTRIAN CLUB	35
•	General Information	35
•	About.....	36
•	Facilities	36
•	Polo Fields.....	37
•	Stables	38
•	Equine hospital.....	38
•	Polo School	39
•	Club Houses	39
•	Dining.....	40
•	Resort (The Horseshoe Point)	40
•	Facilities	42
•	Amenities and Services	42
	CASE STUDY 3.....	43
➤	LAHORE GARRISON SADDLE & POLO CLUB.....	43

•	History	43
•	Objectives	44
•	Facilities	44
•	Stables	44
	CASE STUDY 4.....	46
➤	ISLAMABAD POLO CLUB	46
•	Polo Ground	46
•	Facilities	47
•	Club House Facilities	47
•	Sport Facilities.....	48
•	Poolside Building	48
•	Rooms categories in Islamabad club	48
•	Deluxe Suite	49
	CHAPTER 4. SITE ANALYSIS.....	50
➤	Macro Analysis.....	51
➤	Meso Analysis	51
•	Location.....	51
•	Neighborhood.....	52
➤	Micro Analysis	52
•	Context and profile:.....	52
•	Topography:	52
•	Natural Features	53
•	Man-made features:.....	53
•	Contours or Slopes	53
•	Utilities:	53
•	Climate:	53
•	Sun Direction:.....	55
•	Wind Direction:.....	55
•	Site Selection Criteria.....	55
•	Feasibility Study.....	56
•	Encashment Area.....	56

- Cultural Context of the Site..... 56
- Pros and Cons..... 57
- CHAPTER 5. BUILDING PROGRAM..... 58
- PROGRAM 59
- Problem Statement 59
- Cultural Context of the Project..... 59
- Proposed Buildings..... 61
- Areas of a designed buildings: 61
- Areas of a proposed buildings: 61
- CHAPTER 6. DESIGN CONCEPT 62
- CONCEPT:..... 63
- CHAPTER 7. BIBLIOGRAPHICAL/REFERENCES..... 65
- Books..... 66
- Internet 66

CHAPTER 1. THE PROJECT

➤ **Introduction**

The project offers the riding, recreational, leisure and educational facilities in Lahore to the locals and to the tourists. The project is concerned with the construction of sports and socializing facility in the form of a club. Guest houses for welcoming teams and tourists.

The project discovers the historical sport in contemporary and lively surroundings with advanced facilities. The polo retreat provides a unique contemporary club house, which provides members and guests with a wide variety of dining, leisure, educational and recreational options. A riding school where students of all ages and skill levels are exposed to a wide range of riding disciplines, from show jumping and dressage to polo. This project also offers modern amenities for meetings and conference.

The club also invites international polo players to the club to participate in polo matches. The club also hosts such celebrated events as the annual horse and cattle show in Lahore. It will play a role to further promote the game of polo in Pakistan.

The design of the polo retreat will be such that it will not disturb the natural setting of the environment. This will be achieved by using organic architecture and by the use of certain elements e.g. the interior and exterior link that is facilitated by the building design.

The use of informal spaces will facilitate in unifying the natural environment and the built structure. Placing buildings according to their functions and inter relations. It must be a pleasant addition in the surrounding, environment comfortable and functional for the users.